

Policy on Use of Calculators

School- or student-owned calculators may be used during the Algebra1/Mathematics for the Technologies 2 and Physical Science tests.

Test takers may use basic four-function, scientific, or graphing calculators during the mathematics and physical science tests. The following types of calculators are **not** allowed:

- pocket organizers;
- Palm Pilots, Visors, or other Palm-based devices;
- handheld PCs that use a writing tablet or QWERTY (typewriter) keyboard;
- calculators that use symbolic manipulation capability, such as the Casio FX 2.0, HP 40g or 49g, or Texas Instruments TI-89 or TI-92; and/or
- calculators that “talk” or otherwise make noise, such as the AudioCalc.

See Appendix C of the test administration manuals for guidance on the use of calculators for students with disabilities.

To help maintain test security, the memory of every calculator used during testing must be reset **before and after testing** to clear all applications and programs. Students should not share graphing calculators during the mathematics and physical science tests unless calculators are reset each time the calculator changes hands. This action clears all stored data and program information from the calculator.

Students who wish to use their own calculators during the tests must be told in advance of the test day to back up all data and programs that they wish to save. Because the memory of every calculator used in testing must be reset to the factory default values (cleared) before testing, all data and programs stored in the calculator will be erased. **If a student is unwilling to have his or her calculator’s memory reset, they student may not use that calculator during the test.**